

EDO Principal Correspondence Control

FROM: DUE: 06/15/01

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FINAL REPLY:

Senator Pete V. Domenici
Senator Barbara Mikulski
Senator Inouye

TO:

OCA

FOR SIGNATURE OF :

** GRN **

CRC NO:

DESC:

Post Hearing Q's from the 5/8/01 Hearing on
Terrorism

ROUTING:

Travers
Paperiello
Kane
Norry
Craig
Burns/Cyr
Vietti-Cook, SECY
Rathbun, OCA
Anderson, OEDO

DATE: 06/06/01

ASSIGNED TO:

CONTACT:

NRR
IRO
CIO

Collins
Wessman
Reiter

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS OR REMARKS:

Use Q&A format attached. Provide hard copy and
diskette to Patty Anderson, OEDO by 6/15/01.

Template: EDO-001

E-RIDS: EDO-01

From: KATHERINE HENNESSEY <KATHERINE_HENNESSEY@appro.senate.gov>
To: Betsy Keeling <BJK@nrc.gov>
Date: 6/5/01 3:52PM
Subject: Questions for the Record

Hi Betsy- I have questions for the record from three Senators pertaining to the terrorism hearings for you. (sorry they are late in coming). The Inouye question is directed at all agencies, and I am not sure how applicable it is to the NRC. But do your best. (You may already have these, either from the Senators directly or from our appropriations printers). Please call if any questions (202) 224-7243. Thanks, Katherine

Pete V. Domenici
 CJS Appropriations Hearing
 Terrorism
 May 8, 2001

Questions for Chairman Meserve (NRC)

Nuclear Assurance Act/Generation IV Reactors and threat of Materials Diversion:

I am pleased that you mentioned the provisions in my Nuclear Energy Assurance Act that would aid the NRC in combating terrorism at the facilities under its jurisdiction. I am very hopeful that we'll be able to help you resolve these concerns through the passage of that legislation.

I wanted to ask you questions related to future nuclear plant designs as they relate to terrorist concerns.

My bill contains several provisions designed to pave the way for advanced reactor designs, usually termed Generation IV reactors. I wanted to get your opinion regarding the security elements of more advanced reactors.

1. How will new nuclear plants designs help decrease the threat of terrorism?
2. We have focused much effort on proliferation-resistant reactor designs. What do these efforts do to address one of the most fundamental risks (and arguments against) of our continued reliance on nuclear power?
3. What other new technologies or approaches do you believe will be part of the next generation of nuclear plants as they relate to potential terrorist threats?

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Senator Barbara Mikulski
 For Nuclear Regulatory Commission Chairman Meserve

1. Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP)

NRC included in their "Budget Estimates and Performance Plan: Fiscal Year 2002" report to Congress that they expected to finish updating the cybersecurity portion of their CIP plan in FY01. NRC also indicated in that report that they were going to initiate computer-based security awareness training for employees, as well as monitor the effectiveness of the IT security protection initiatives. NRC also has the responsibility to make radiological health and safety decisions with regard to the overall state of emergency preparedness, such as assurance for continued operation and shutdown of operating reactors.

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CIO

Have you completed your cybersecurity updates, as indicated in your Budget Estimates and Performance Plan: FY02 report? If not, what is left to be done, and how long do you estimate that will take?

Where are you in the process of training your employees with respect to cybersecurity awareness? What specific steps have been taken to date to implement this training?

What tools are you using to monitor the effectiveness of IT security protections that have been implemented? Is there one person who is in charge of the monitoring?

What standard are you using to determine whether the protections are "effective?"

QUESTION FOR THE RECORD BY SENATOR INOUE

- {, During your testimony, you spoke of the importance of training and equipping first responders who will be on the ground to deal with an act of domestic terrorism during the critical few hours before federal personnel can be brought on the scene. The consequences of having ill-prepared first responders in Hawaii, which is five hours by plane from the continental United States, will be particularly severe. Please tell me what has been done at the federal level to ensure that the first responders in Hawaii are properly trained and equipped to deal with such an incident and what contingencies are in place to ensure the rapid deployment of federal resources to such a remote location in the event of an incident.

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